

A METHOD FOR ROUTING INFORMATION OVER A NETWORK

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ABSTRACT

5 A method of operating an ~~optical~~ network is described. The network includes
 a number of nodes connected by a number of links. A method according to the
 present invention provisions a virtual path between a first and a second one of the
 plurality of nodes by: identifying the first and the second nodes, discovering a
 physical path from the first node to the second node, and establishing the virtual path.
 The method discovers a physical path from the first node to the second node by
 10 automatically identifying nodes forming the physical path. The method establishes
 the virtual path by configuring a set of connections between the nodes forming the
 physical path.

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